

Please Join us In Supporting Massachusetts Families

Massachusetts Families Organizing for Change, Inc.

Department Developmental Services (DDS)

There are 37,000 individuals and families on the Dept. Developmental Services (DDS) caseload. Families are the largest group of caregivers. Family support, Turning 22 and related supports comprise a lifeline for these families and their loved ones.

- ⊗ Families are our greatest asset, representing 60% of individuals served yet just 3.5 % of the budget
- ⊗ Caregiving can mean 24/7 support, giving up jobs and can affect the entire family
- ⊗ With meaningful supports, families can remain together and part of their community

Line Item 5920-5000 Turning 22	Maintain	total \$24,191,670
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Most T22 remain with family and need employment/day, family and transportation supports. First year ever that year one services are proposed to be fully funded.

Line Item: 5920-3000 DDS Family Support & Respite Services	\$2 Mil increase	total \$65,779,097
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Last year's \$5 Mil increase was released months after the start of the fiscal year. But we know 10,000 families were waiting for supports along with elder caregivers. Funding this line item responds to a lifetime of caring and for many families means much needed relief.

Line Item 5920-3020 Adult Omnibus	\$1 Mil increase	total \$14,403,338
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Youth with autism are graduating at higher rates. FY'17 funding did not allow for adults newly in need. We need to catch up with students left at home and those graduating this year expected to total nearly 300.

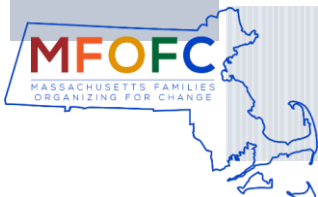
Mass Pediatric Nursing Campaign

H.1959/ S.1273

Relative to continuous skilled care of fragile children in the Commonwealth

An Act Requiring Protection for the Continuous Skilled Care of Fragile Children in the Commonwealth will ensure children and adults receiving continuous skilled nursing care are treated with dignity and that they and their families will be guaranteed excellent care, proper access, a skilled workforce, and accountability.

FY ' 18 Budget Ask and Legislative Priorities



Contact Mande Spittle, Statewide Coordinator, Mass Families Organizing for Change at mfofc@mfofc.org or 774-855-6001